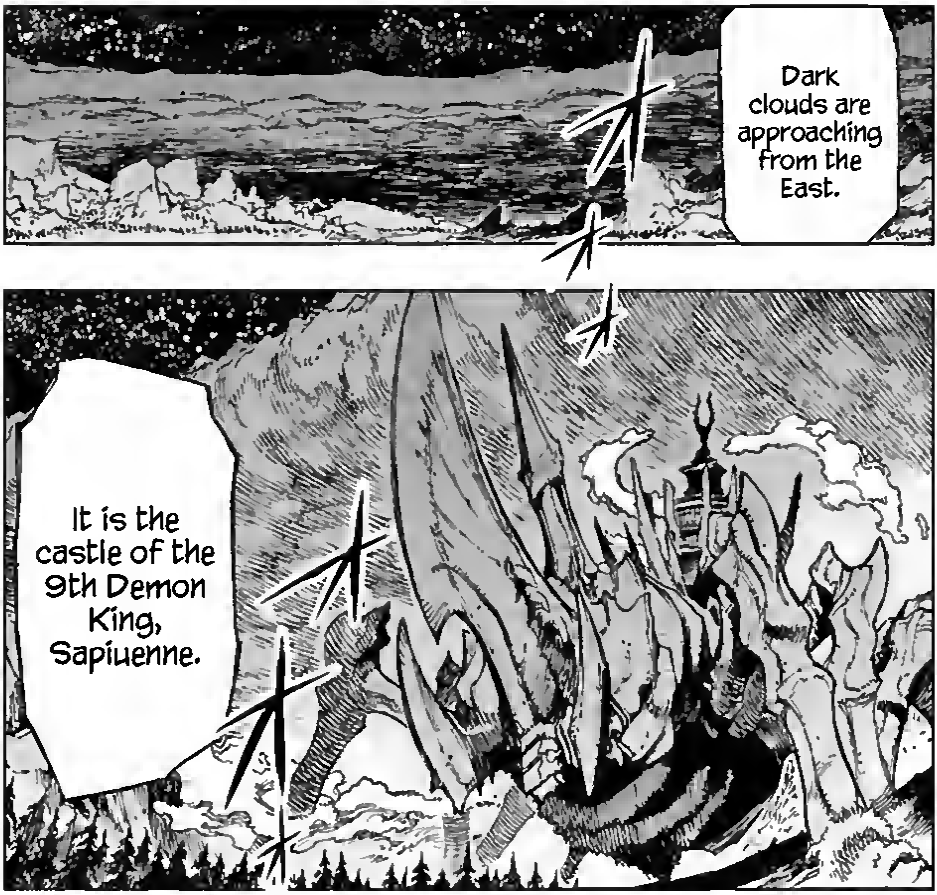
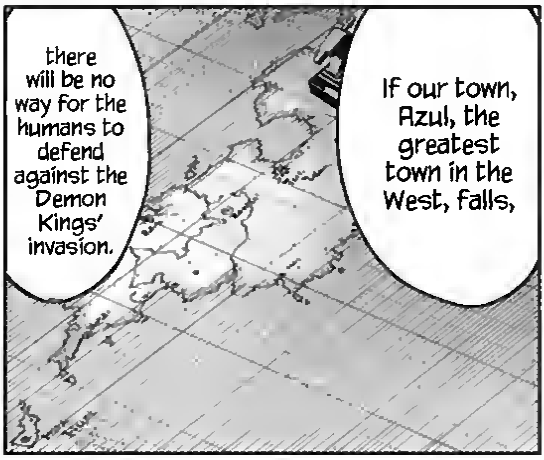

Dark clouds are approaching from the East.
It is the castle of the 9th Demon King, Sapiuenne.

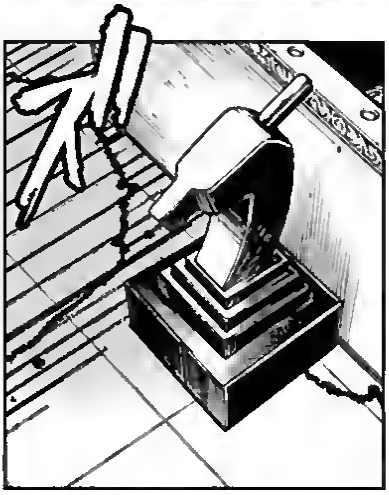
1

in six days...
At this pace, it will arrive here
It is still heading straight this way.

ナラクアボウ

3: Mountain Winds

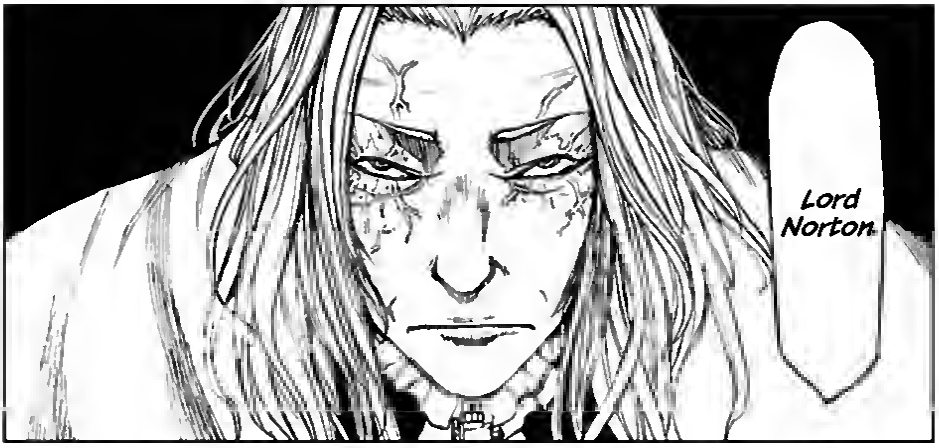

If our town, Azul, the greatest town in the West, falls,
there will be no way for the humans to defend against the Demon Kings' invasion.

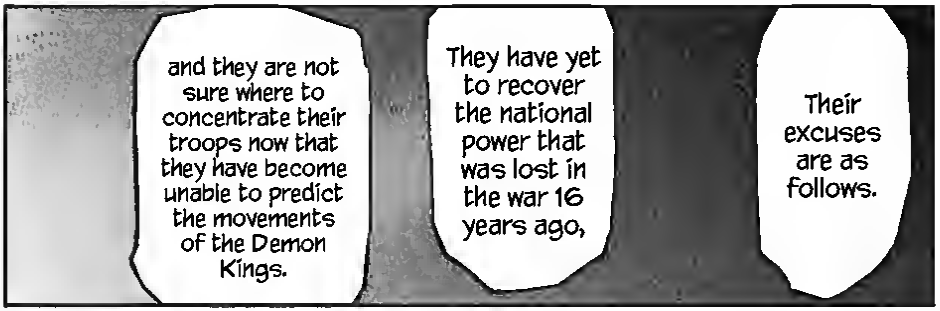


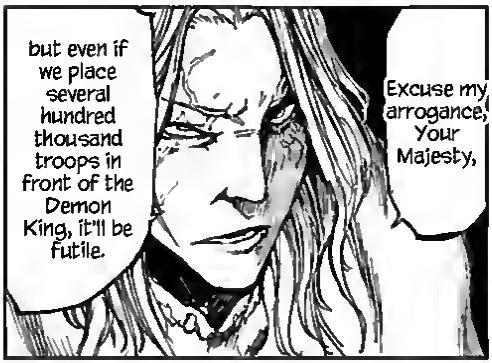
Raise your head,

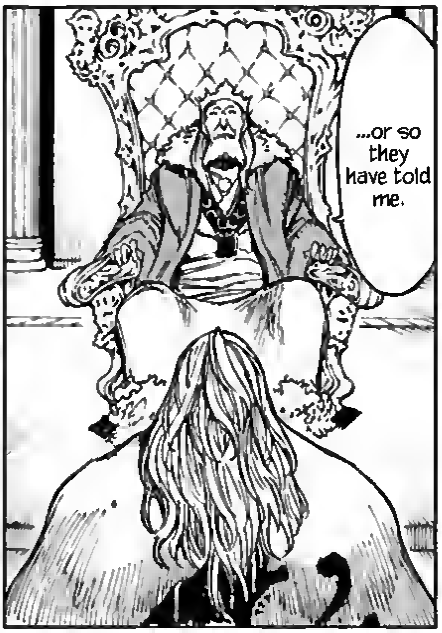
Therefore, the various countries in the West have refused to cooperate with us.

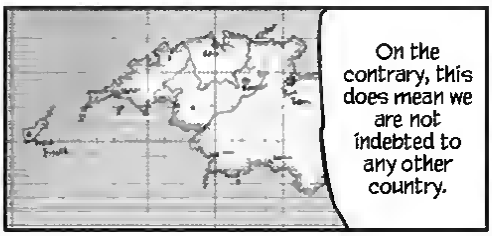
3


Lord Norton


and they are not sure where to concentrate their troops now that they have become unable to predict the movements of the Demon Kings.
They have yet to recover the national power that was lost in the war 16 years ago,
Their excuses are as follows.


but even if we place several hundred thousand troops in front of the Demon King, it'll be futile.
Excuse my arrogance, Your Majesty,

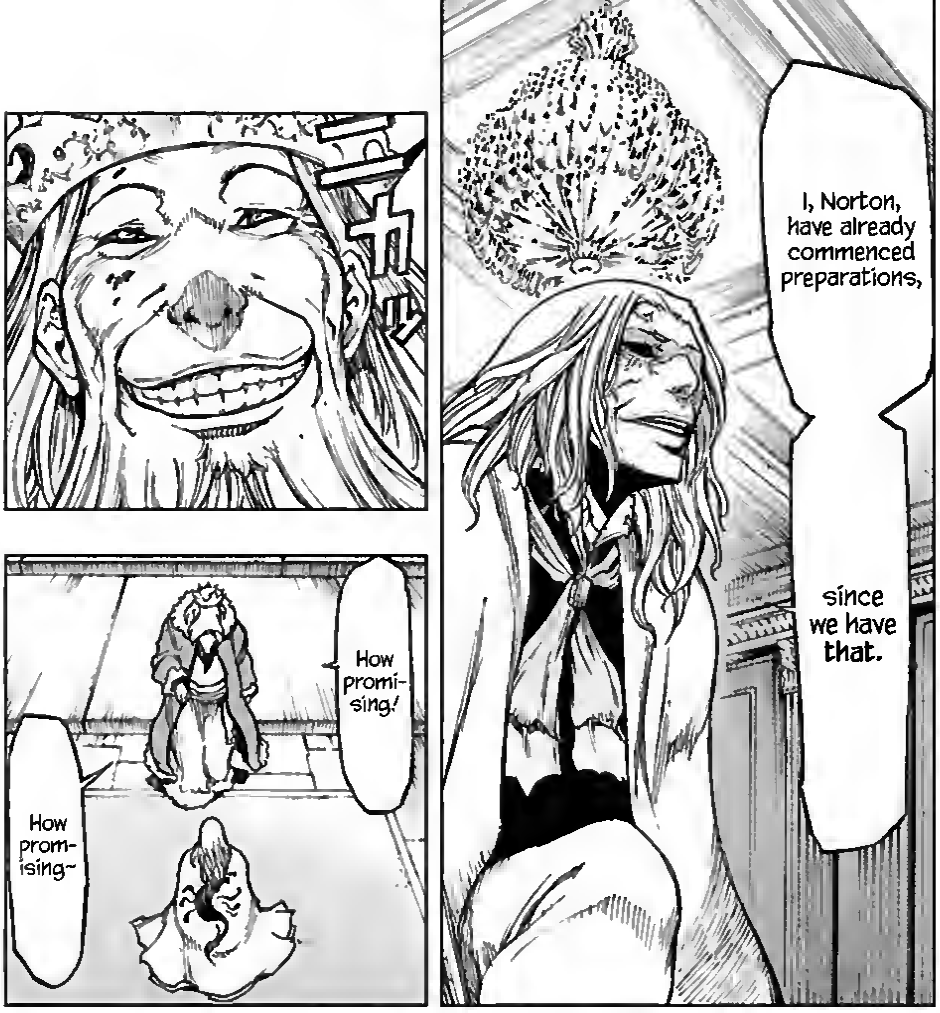

...or so they have told me.


On the contrary, this does mean we are not indebted to any other country.

4

Do not worry.

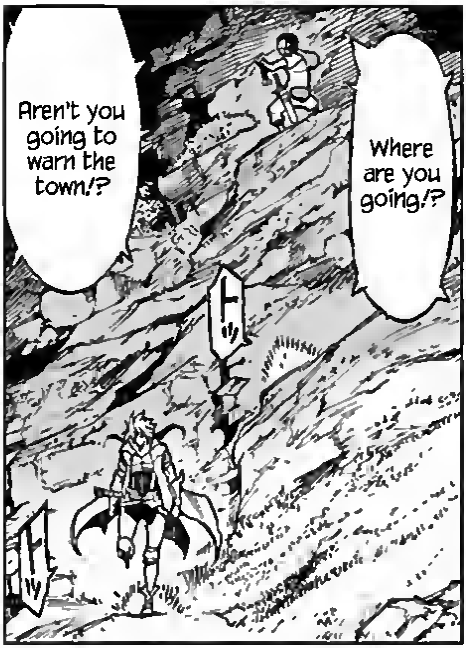
The prominent Company of Heroes completely perished.
There is nothing we can do about it.
Certainly, our punishment by the Demon King this time stems from the Company of Heroes...

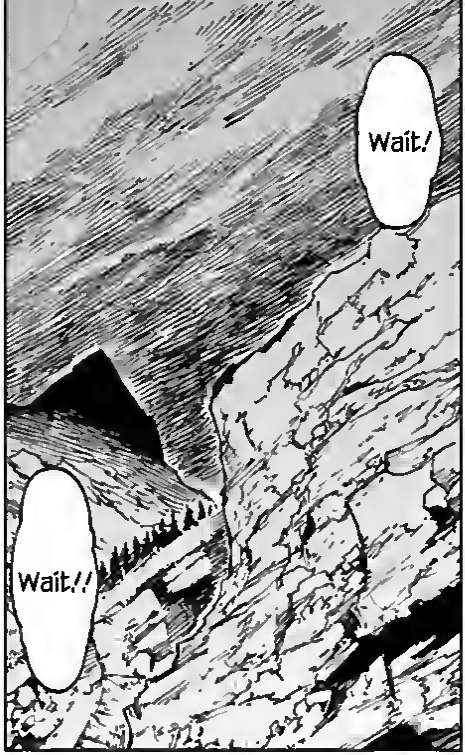

I, Norton, have already commenced preparations,
since we have that.
How promising!
How promising~

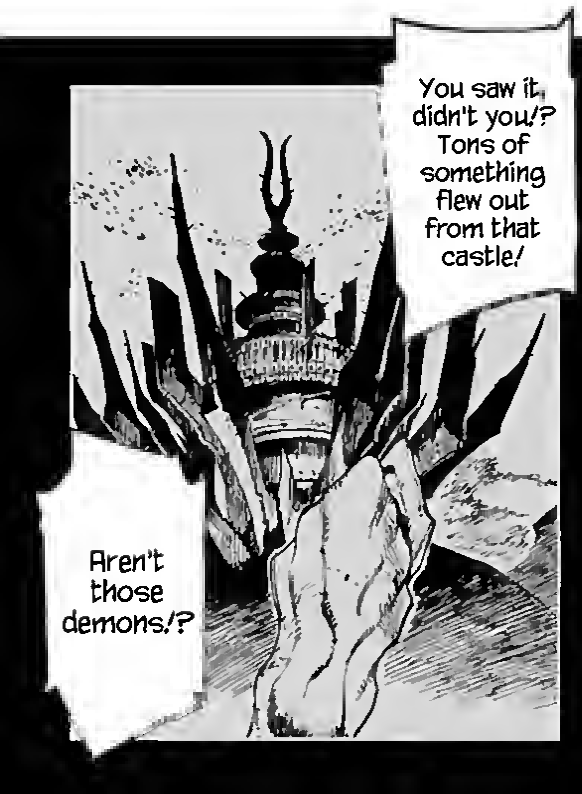
5

On that map,
the areas that have fallen into the Demon Kings' darkness have been painted black.
I will definitely repaint it for you.

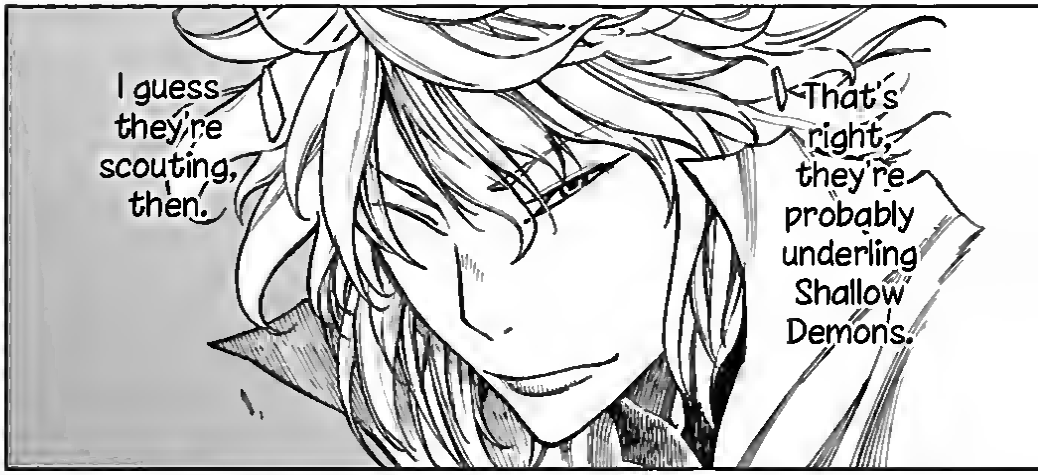
You damn Demon Kings,
I shall teach you a lesson!

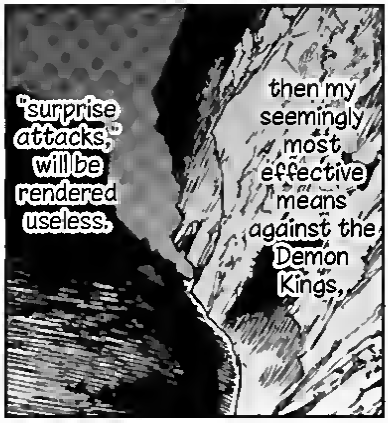

Aren't you going to warn the town!?
Where are you going!?

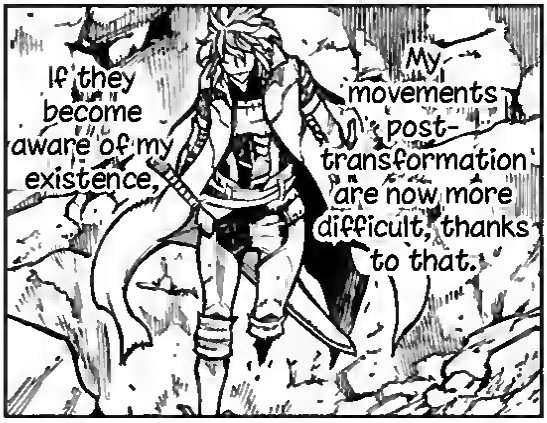

Wait!
Wait!!


You saw it, didn't you!? Tons of something flew out from that castle!
Aren't those demons!?

Are you some pel?
God damn it!!
Are you planning to run away on your own!?


I guess they're scouting, then.
That's right, they're probably underling Shallow Demons.

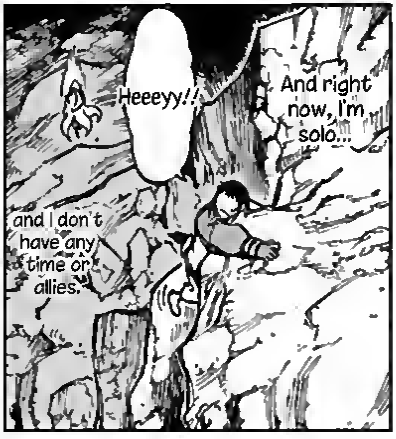

"surprise attacks," will be rendered useless.
then my seemingly most effective means against the Demon Kings.


If they become aware of my existence,
My movements post-transformation are now more difficult, thanks to that.

8

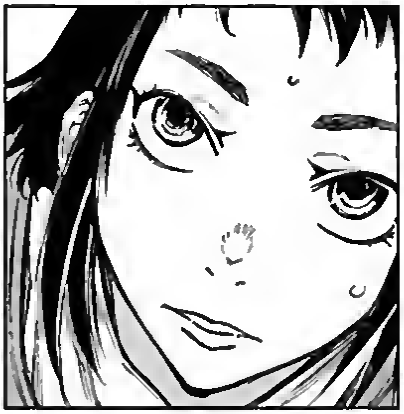
I suppose I should change the way I think.
Oh-
You stopped

トン

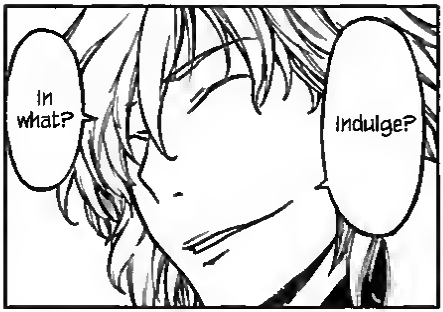

Heeeyy!!
And right now, I'm solo...
and I don't have any time or allies.

Oh... What?
What is it!?
I'm not sure about that appearance of hers... – but if I change my point of view,
I suppose I could say she's only one who survived from back there.

Are you planning on running off alone again and hiding!?
Even though you're that powerful!



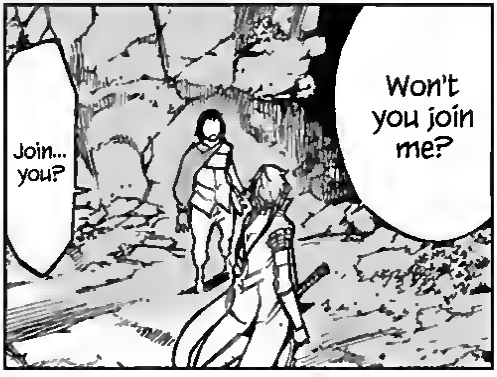
Even powerless humans will probably be useful,
depending on how they're used.

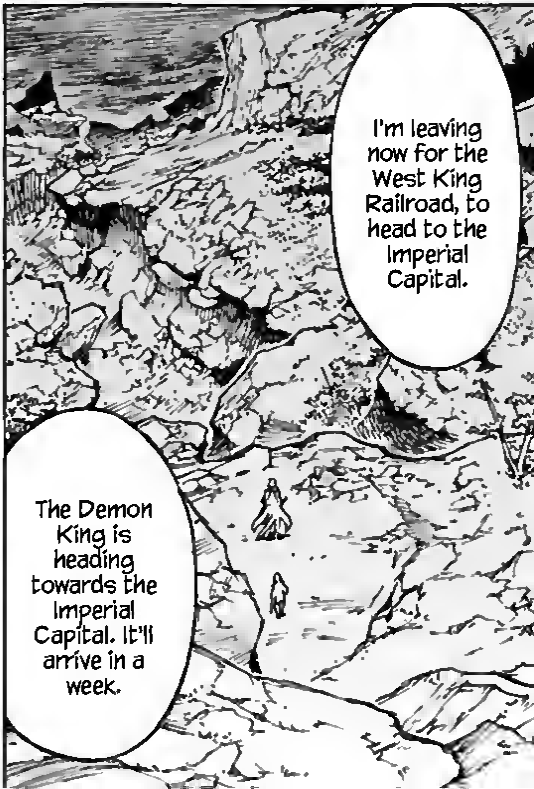

Indulge?
In what?

You're thinking of something weird, aren't you!!!?
The end of this world
It's futile
Might as well indulge since I'm gonna die anyway
HIT

Hmph.
It's obvi ous.

I'll gather more military power with the remaining Company of Heroes in the Imperial Capital.
If there are powerful humans there, I can go fetch some replacements... as I always have.


Won't you join me?
Join... you?


I'm leaving now for the West King Railroad, to head to the Imperial Capital.
The Demon King is heading towards the Imperial Capital. It'll arrive in a week.

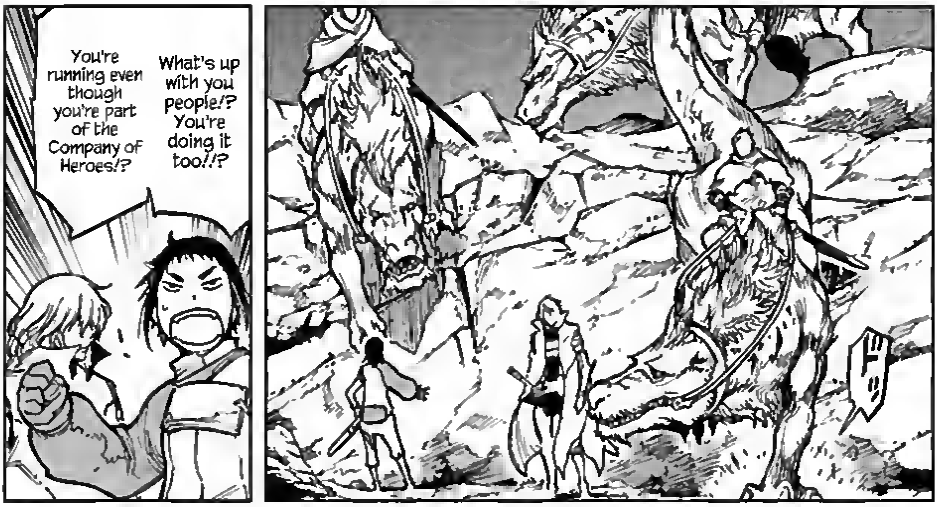
To subjugate the Demon King.
I apologize for the late introduction. I'm Adu, from the Company of Heroes.
The Company of Heroes!?
You're part of the Company of Heroes!?
In that case, why did you get involved with that operation!?
No, actually, you should've been out in the open saving everyone!!
Say something !!
Please don't yell with such a loud voice.

Why...
Since there are various things approaching us.

The "Company of Heroes"?

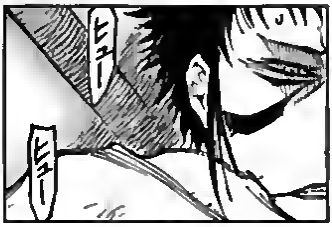
To think there would be comrades in a place like this!

I guess you guys are running from demons as well?

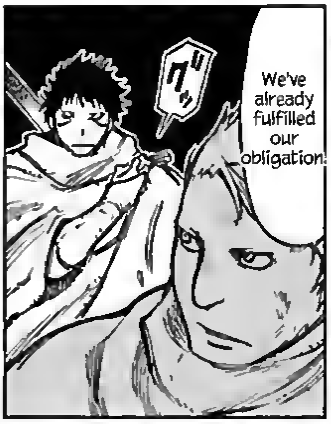

You're running even though you're part of the Company of Heroes!?
What's up with you people!? You're doing it too!!?
ドド

Go fight them!!
You exist to defeat the demons!

13

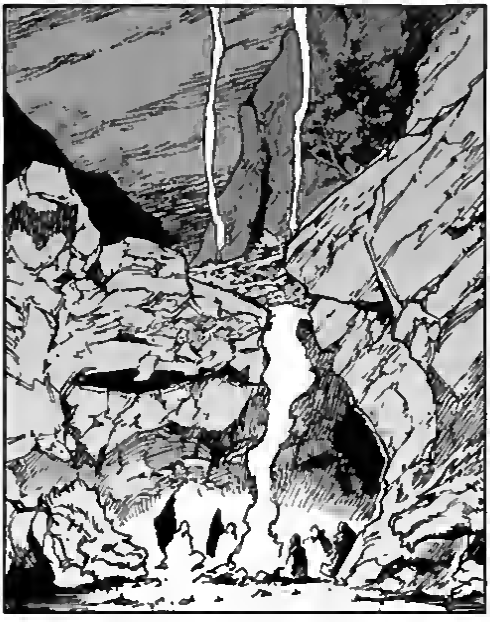

ヒュー
ヒュー

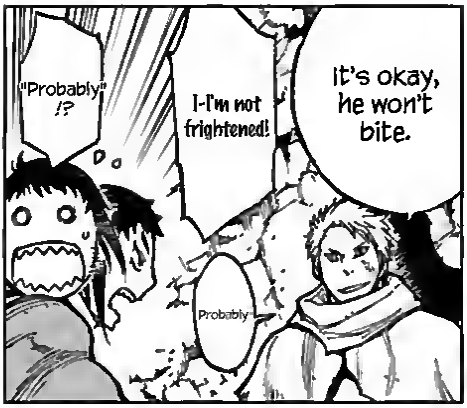
ヒュー


ゲッ
We've already fulfilled our obligation.

OHHHH!!
ズバ

14



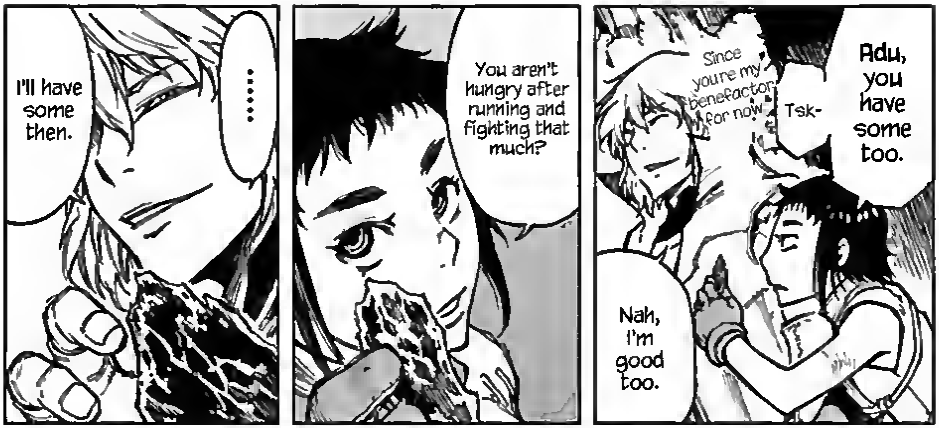

"Probably" !?
I-I'm not frightened!
It's okay, he won't bite.
Probably

...WOW.
I can't settle down like this though

We fled without taking anything, so we haven't eaten since yesterday.
Sorry for asking, but do you have any food?
Come to think of it, I haven't either.

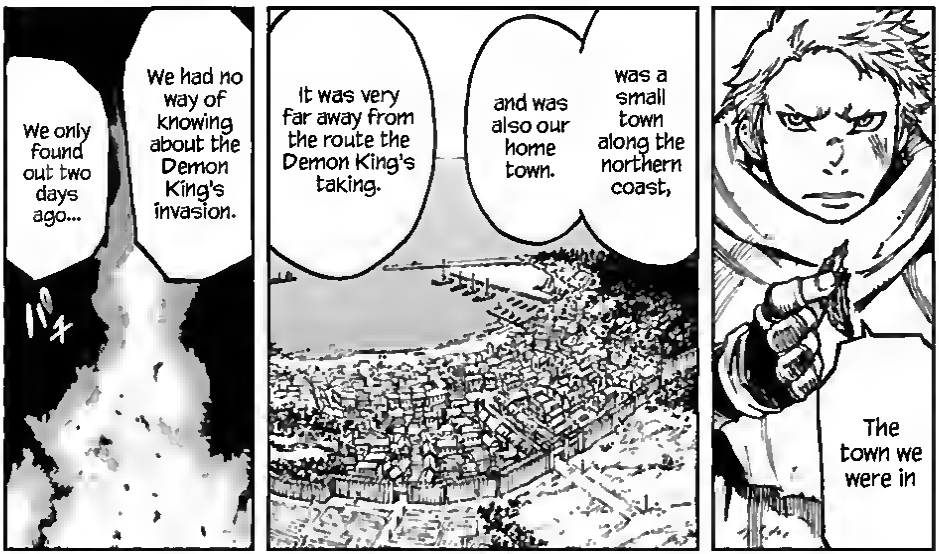
I'm fine.
My sister isn't eating either.

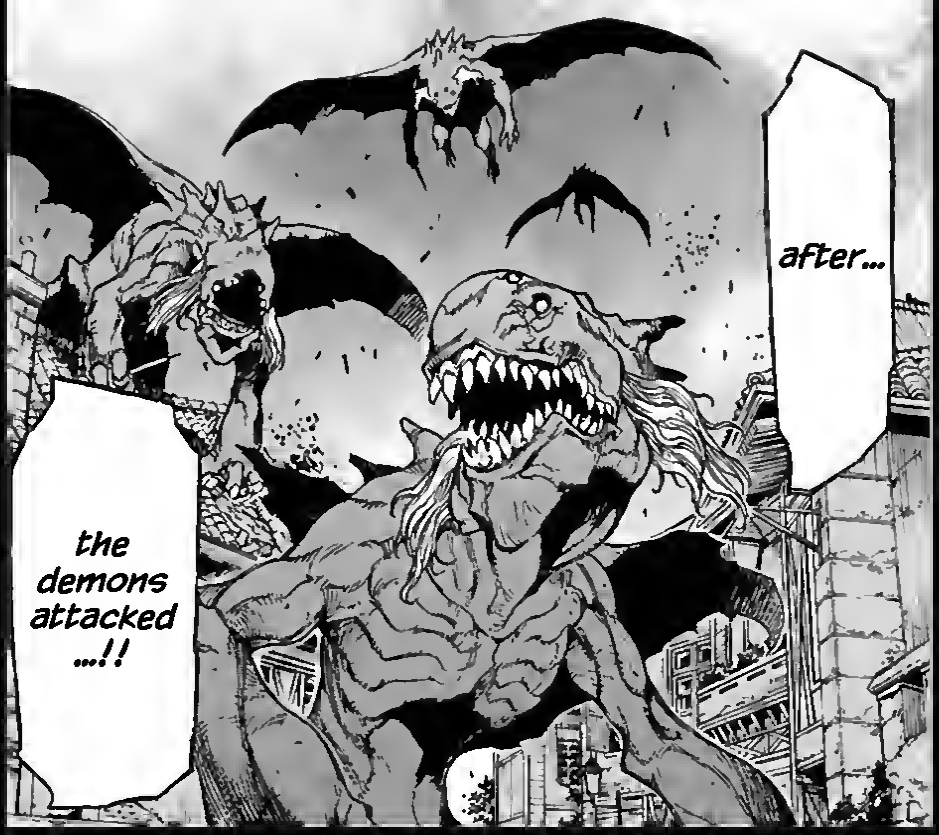
Thanks.
Well, I've got some dried wild rat meat.
Jung, you have some too.


I'll have some then.
.....
You aren't hungry after running and fighting that much?
Since you're my benefactor for now
Tsk-
Adu, you have some too.
Nah, I'm good too.

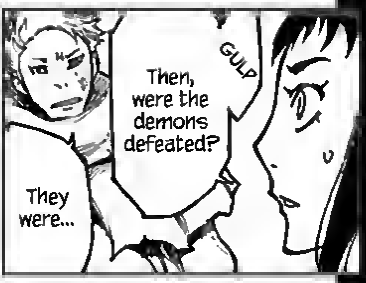
So, what sort of circumstances are making you head for the West?

16


We only found out two days ago...
We had no way of knowing about the Demon King's invasion.
It was very far away from the route the Demon King's taking.
and was also our home town.
was a small town along the northern coast,
The town we were in


after...
the demons attacked ...!!

and the only ones who survived are probably us...

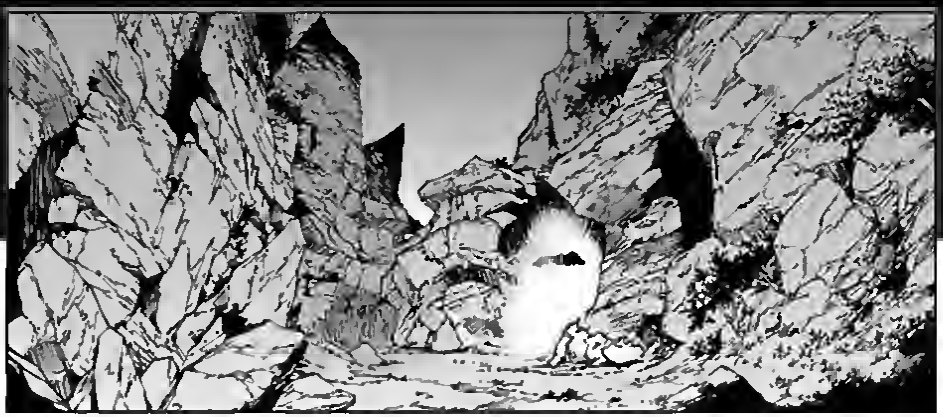

GULP
Then, were the demons defeated?
They were...

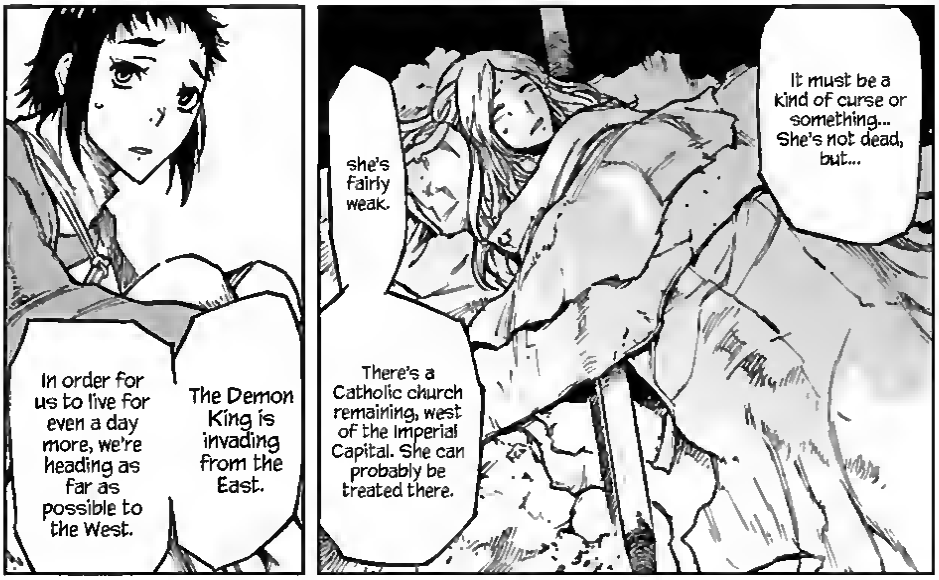
The 22 members of the Company of Heroes stood against them,

Let's run away!
Jung!!
The town's already done for!
We did it!
You saw that, right!?
Fucking demon!!
Just one of them.
Everyone, come over here!!
Big Brother!!
Where's Marie!?
Shit! They came with friends!!
Rain Art!!
Mist! Hide us!!

A sorceress...
They're hard to come by.
Let's go!!
!!?
Marie-
Uh-
What the hell's this!? They're randomly getting thrown in!
Big Brother

I'm forced to stay home everyday to care for my mother, who has been sick for over 15 years.
If you love my releases, please consider donating at KireiCake.com to support our livelihood.
All proceeds go towards offsetting her medical fees. Thank you very much for reading!

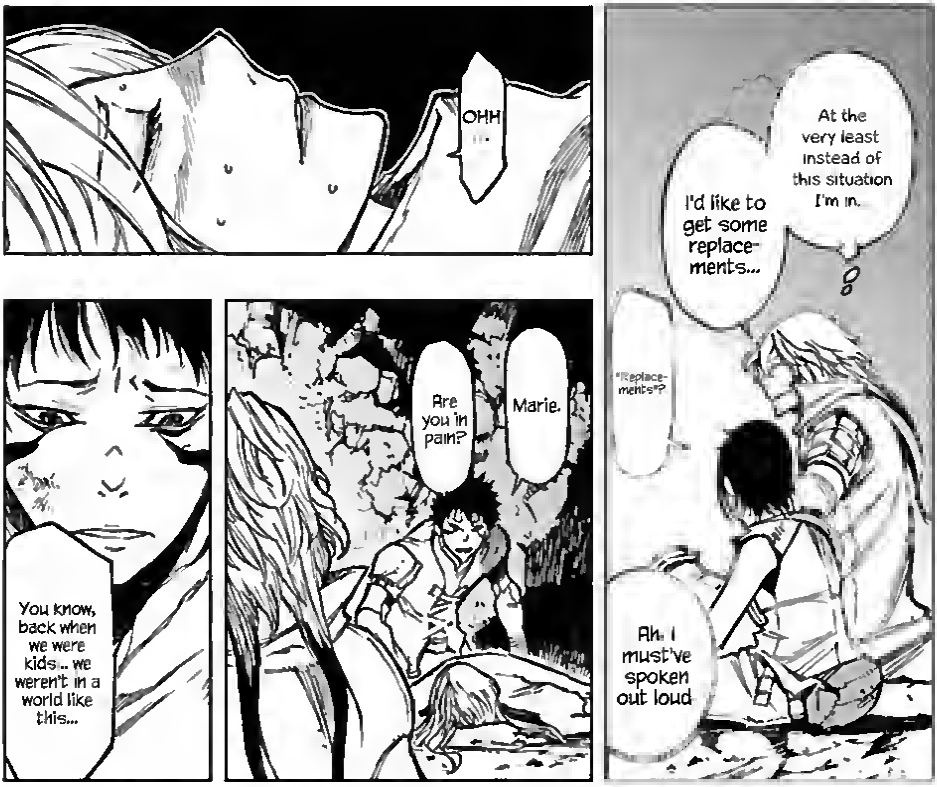


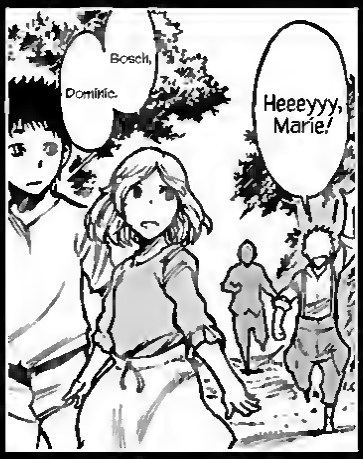

In order for us to live for even a day more, we're heading as far as possible to the West.
The Demon King is invading from the East.
she's fairly weak.
There's a Catholic church remaining, west of the Imperial Capital. She can probably be treated there.
It must be a kind of curse or something... She's not dead, but...

Are they trying to flush me, the unknown threat to them, out?
I'm sure other towns are having a similar experience.
A clean-up mission.

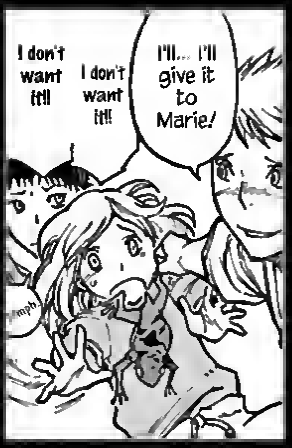
the Company of Heroes I'm headed to.
then they should be more capable than
If they've experienced killing demons.
Are we gonna keep west like this?
No, we should detour south.
Assembling skilled people is difficult as well.

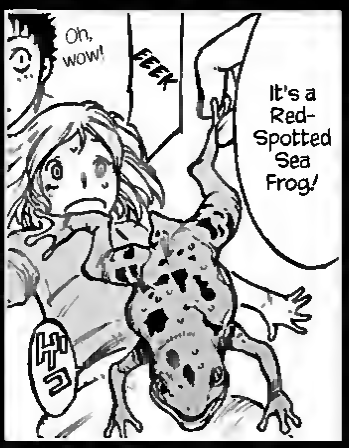
21


OHH
At the very least instead of this situation I'm in.
I'd like to get some replace-ments...
"Replace-ments"?
Ah, I must've spoken out loud
You know, back when we were kids... we weren't in a world like this...
Marie.
Are you in pain?


Bosch,
Dominic.
Heeeyyy, Marie!

When we were kids...


I don't want it!!
I don't want it!!
I'll... I'll give it to Marie!

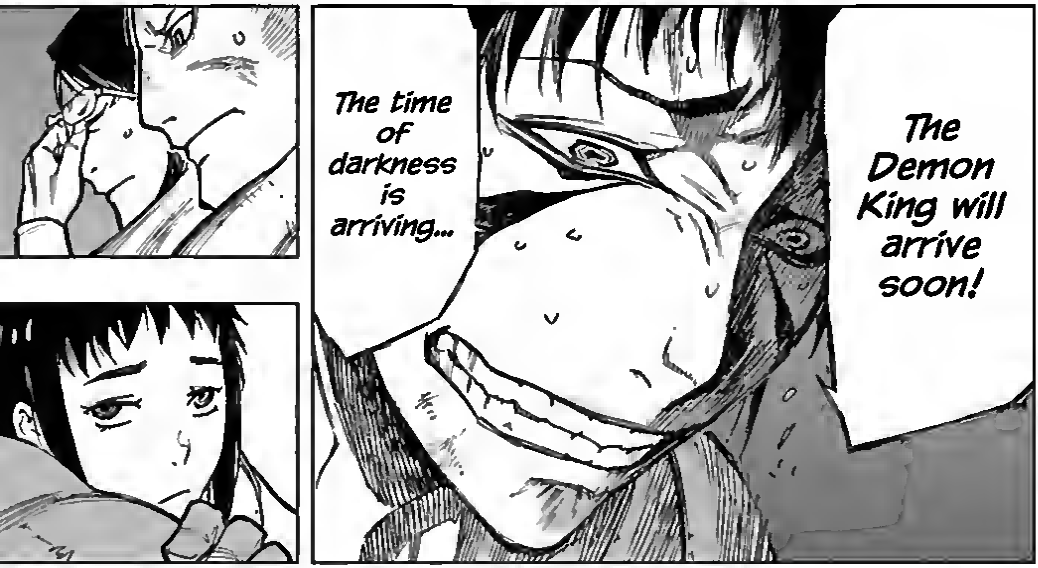

Oh, wow!
EEEK
It's a Red-Spotted Sea Frog!

We found something amazing!

That Jung...

If you lay a hand on Marie, I'll hang you upside down!
Bosch, you bastard!
This ain't got nothing to do with you!

and Marie gets healed...
Even if we luckily survive for now and head to the far west...
These "Demon Kings"!
What'll we do if they destroy the humans!!?
What the hell are they!!?
And now we're living, afraid of these demons...


The time of darkness is arriving...
The Demon King will arrive soon!

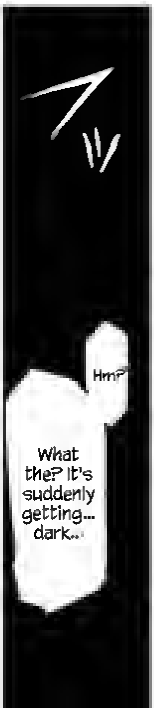
Yes, you!
You've been smirking the whole time!
That said,
hey you.
too much.
He talks

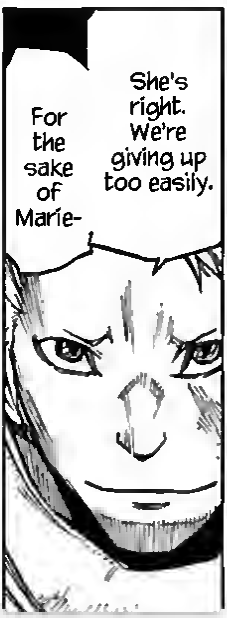
Hey! Jung!!
Stop!
Do you think what I'm saying
and my little sister is funny!!?
I've done it again.
Facial expressions are difficult to grasp...
Your face is pissing me off!!
stop, Big Brother.
St-

The "time of darkness"?
We've had the Demon Kings ever since I was born!
Hah.
Nothing's changed up until now!

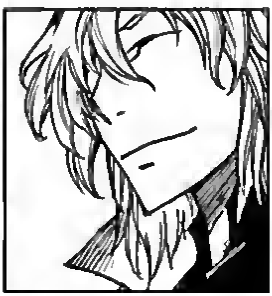
Marie!
You're awake!!

It's not cool.
Yeah, just drop it.


Hm?
What the? It's suddenly getting... dark...


For the sake of Marie-
She's right. We're giving up too easily.

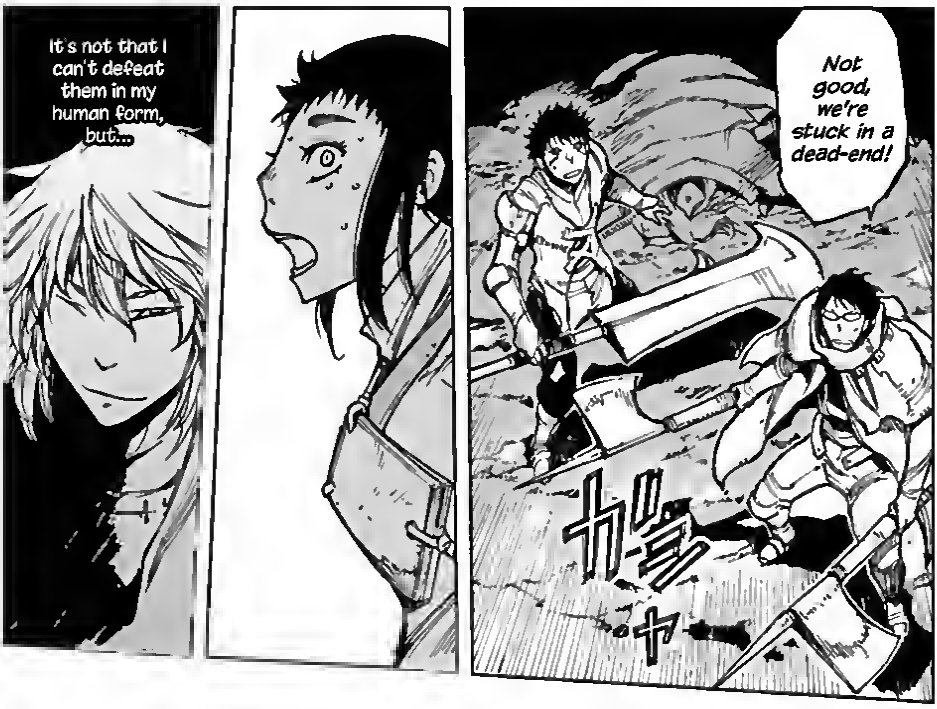
Haha! You're a tough one, aren't cha!

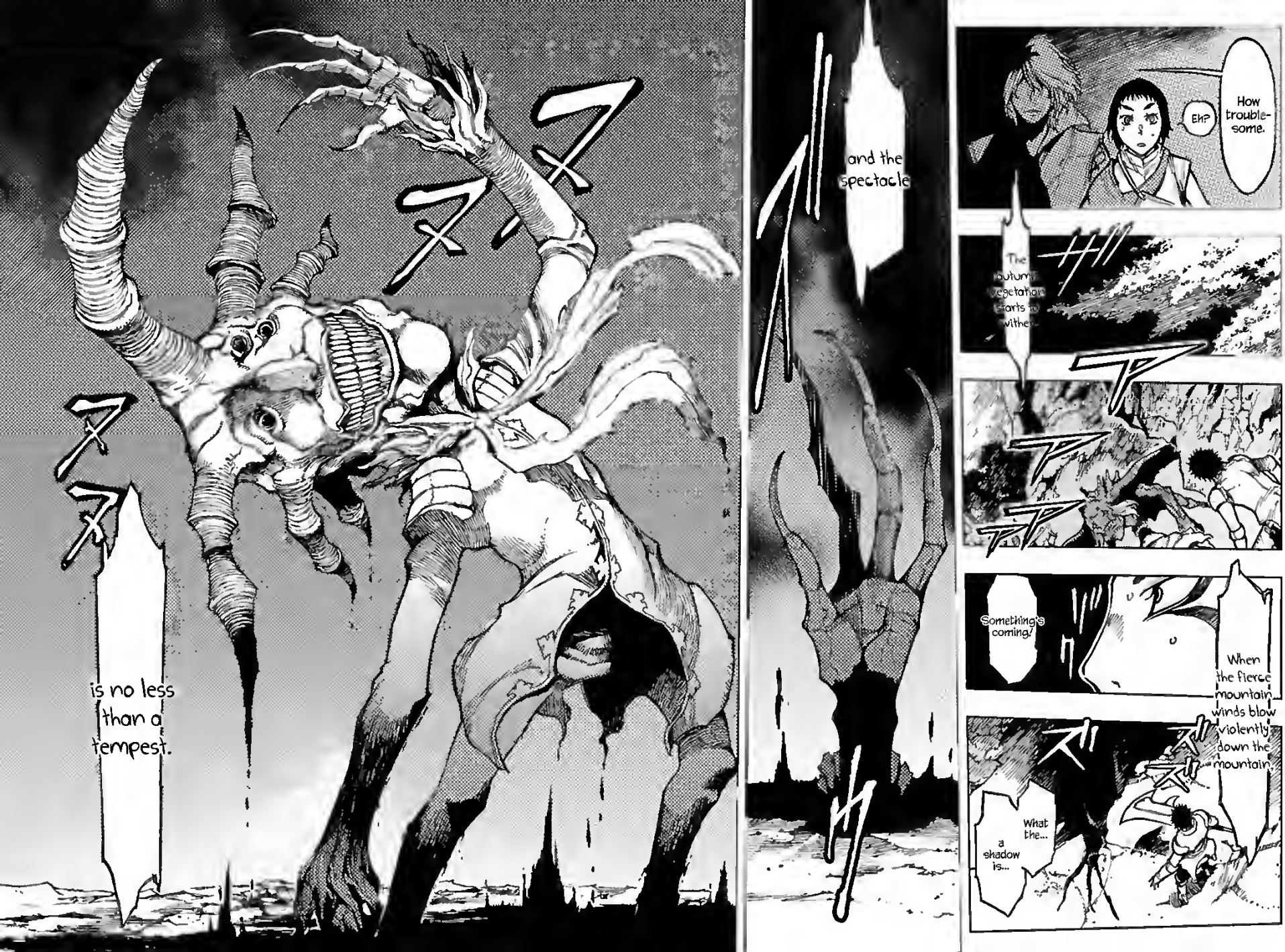


I'VE FOUND YOU...
MY SKEWER...
Bosch!!

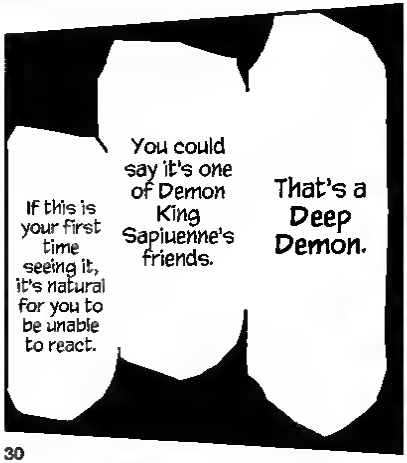
A... demon?
It's called a Shallow Demon.

There's two of them!!
ガシャ


It's not that I can't defeat them in my human form, but...
Not good, we're stuck in a dead-end!
カラン

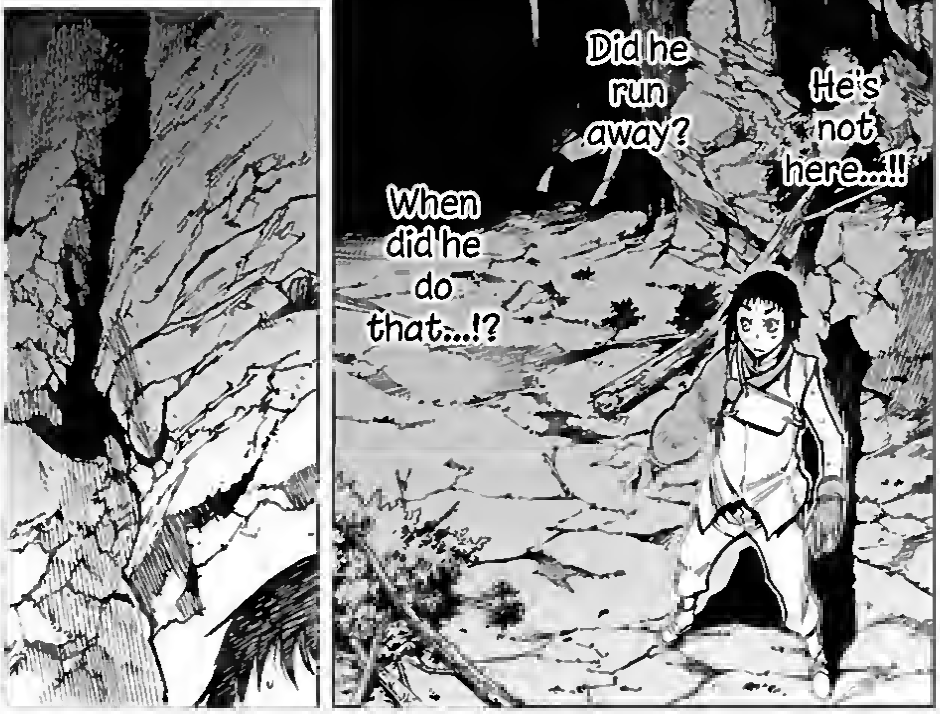

How trouble-some.
EH?
The autumn vegetation starts to wither.
Something's coming!
When the fierce mountain winds blow violently down the mountain.
What the... a shadow is...
and the spectacle
is no less than a tempest.

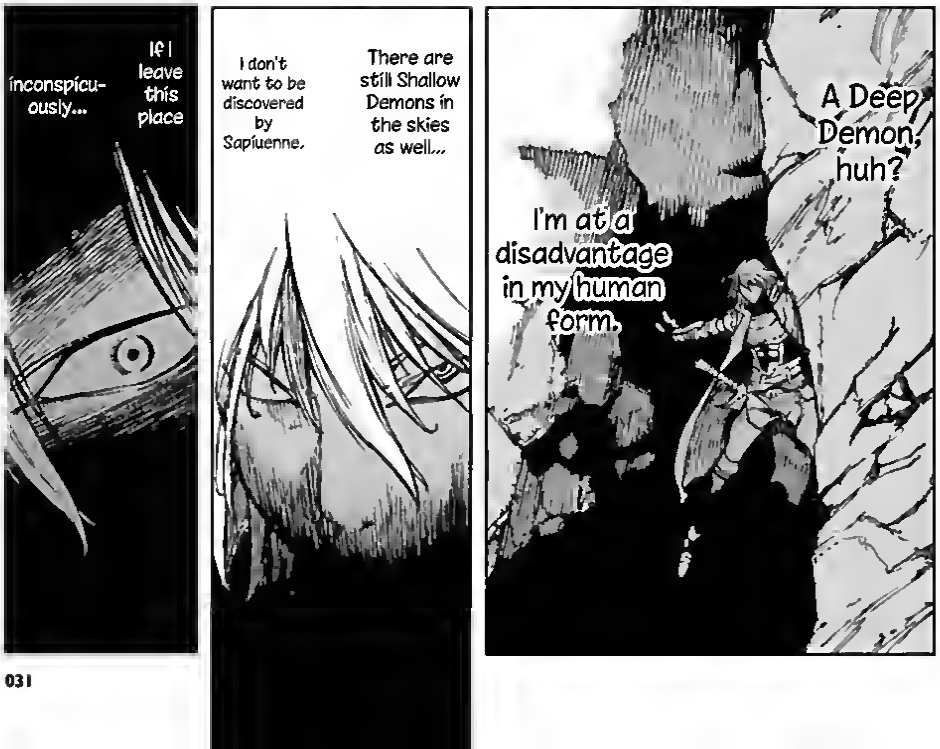
AH...
AH...
AH...

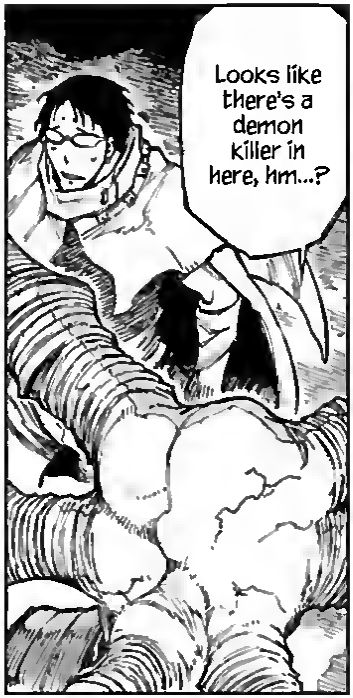

That's a Deep Demon.
You could say it's one of Demon King Sapiuenne's friends.
If this is your first time seeing it, it's natural for you to be unable to react.

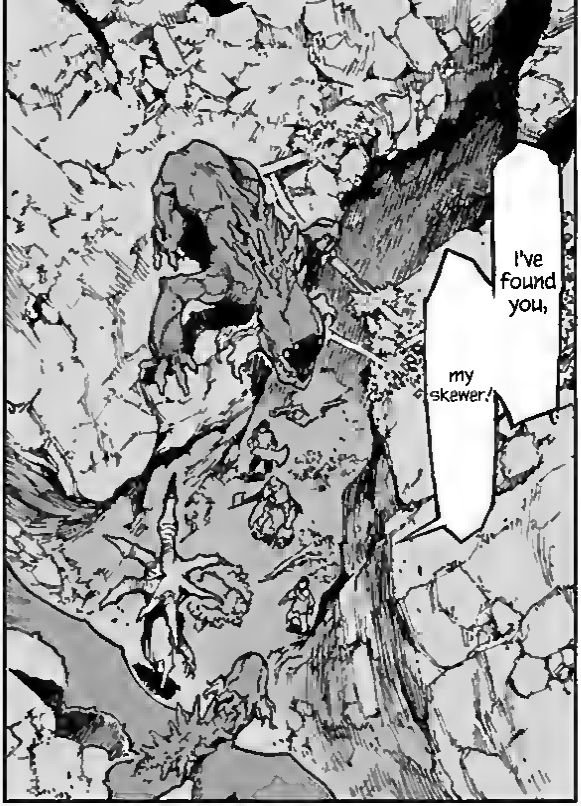
A... Adu?

I don't know its meaning, but...


When did he do that...!?
Did he run away?
He's not here...!!


If I leave this place inconspicuously...
I don't want to be discovered by Sapiuenne.
There are still Shallow Demons in the skies as well...
I'm at a disadvantage in my human form.
A Deep Demon, huh?


Looks like there's a demon killer in here, hm...?


I've found you, my skewer!

IS IT YOUUU?
IS IT YOU?

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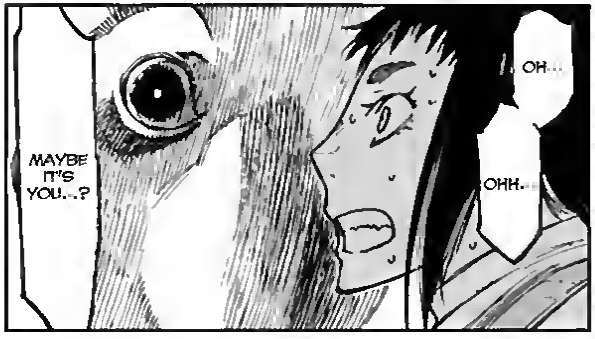
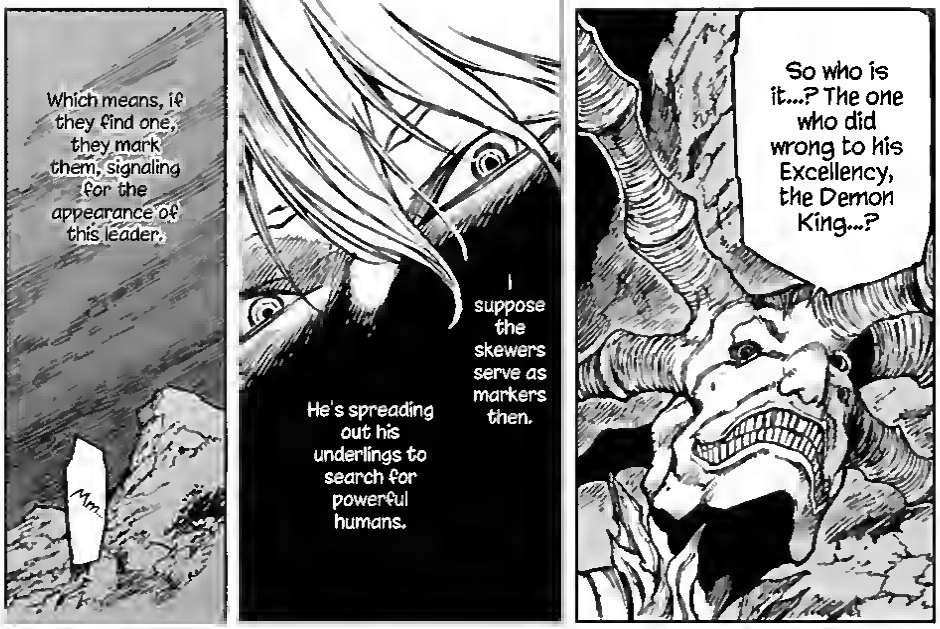
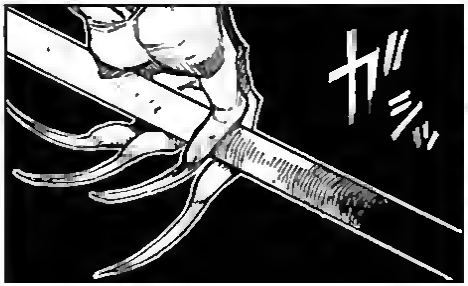

MAYBE IT'S YOU...?
OH...
OHH...

OH...
OHH...

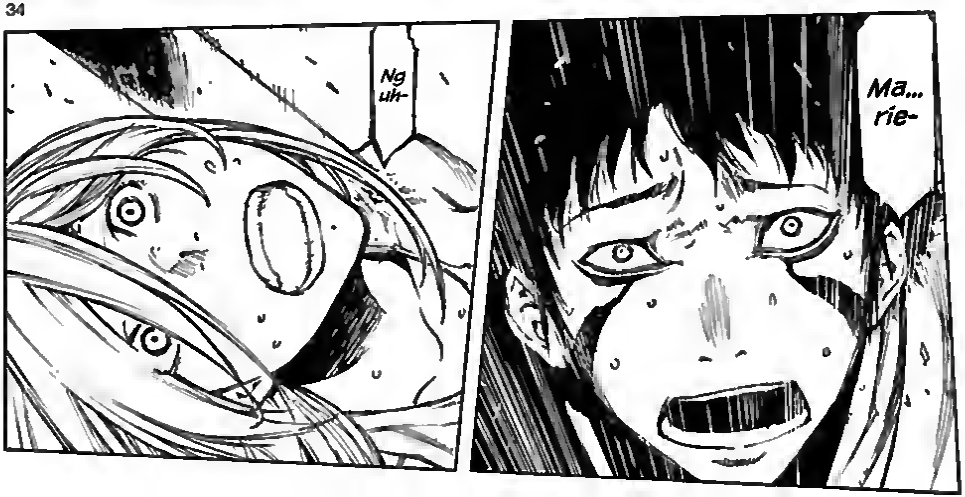

So who is it...? The one who did wrong to his Excellency, the Demon King...?
I suppose the skewers serve as markers then.
He's spreading out his underlings to search for powerful humans.
Which means, if they find one, they mark them, signaling for the appearance of this leader.
Mm.

First off...


ガッシッ

Well, it should be fine then... if I just ate everyone.

I shall enjoy my hors d'oeuvre!!


Ng uh-
Ma... rie-

ADU OF HAOES
3
TL NITORI
CL HELLCAKES
PR MZTLPLX
TS MAGES_
KIREI CAKE
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